House Resolution No. 4354

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives always welcome the opportunity to acknowledge milestone events in the lives of Show-Me State residents who have proven down through the years to be exemplary citizens in local communities and neighborhoods; and

Whereas, A. Paul Vance of Fredericktown, Missouri, was born on July 22, 1919, at Zalma, Missouri, and celebrated his Eighty-eighth Birthday at the Aviation Hall of Fame in Dayton, Ohio, on July 22, 2007; and

Whereas, on August 4, 2007, Paul Vance will be the guest of honor at a surprise fly-in celebration at the Fredericktown Regional Airport in light of the important role he has played in his hometown and throughout the surrounding Madison County; and

Whereas, recipient of numerous awards during his nearly seventy years in the field of aviation, Paul Vance was a Navy pilot during World War II, Head of Aviation for the Saint Louis Chamber of Commerce, a pilot for Monsanto Chemical, and a member of the National Aeronautic Association Board, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, QB's, and Missouri Pilots Association; and

Whereas, after he was forced to make an emergency landing on a highway in West Virginia due to a loose fuel cap, Paul Vance successfully led a campaign to make non-siphoning gas caps standard equipment on aircraft; and

Whereas, in addition to owning and restoring the historic Missouri Pacific Railroad Depot, Paul Vance was instrumental in the project to double the length of the Fredericktown Regional Airport runway to allow commercial jet traffic and in the 150th anniversary commemoration of the Trail of Tears wagon train during 1988, with which he covered more than 1,000 miles in a covered wagon pulled by a mule team during the 78-day retracing of the forced removal of Cherokees from their ancestral home; and

Whereas, Paul Vance is justifiably proud to be known as the beloved husband of Sue, now deceased, and the loving father of four children:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the diverse accomplishments garnered thus far in the life of Paul Vance and to convey to him this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes as he celebrates his Eighty-eighth Birthday; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation to A. Paul Vance of Fredericktown, Missouri.

Offered by Speaker Rod Jetton District No. 156

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 4354, adopted July 31, 2007.